Received By: mdsida

# 2005 DRAFTING REQUEST

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Received: 02/17/2005

FE Sent For:

Wanted: As time permits For: Annette Polly Williams (608) 266-0960			Identical to LRB:  By/Representing: Wanda  Drafter: mdsida					
								This file may be shown to any legislator: NO
May Cont	tact:							
Subject:		al Law - law er al Law - proce			Extra Copies:			
Submit vi	ia email: YES							
Requester	r's email:	Rep.Willia	msA@legis.	state.wi.us				
Carbon co	opy (CC:) to:	•	@legis.state inaman@leg	.wi.us gis.state.wi.u	18			
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Topic: Investigat	ting deaths cau	used by law enfo	orcement off	icers				
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# 2005 DRAFTING REQUEST

Received By: mdsida

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Received: 02/17/2005

Wanted: A	As time perm	its			Identical to LRE	3:			
For: Annette Polly Williams (608) 266-0960  This file may be shown to any legislator: NO			By/Representing: Wanda						
			Drafter: mdsida						
May Cont	tact:				Addl. Drafters:				
Subject: Submit vi		al Law - law er al Law - proce			Extra Copies:				
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## 2005 DRAFTING REQUEST

Bill

Received: 02/17/2005

Received By: mdsida

Wanted: As time permits

Identical to LRB:

For: Annette Polly Williams (608) 266-0960

By/Representing: Wanda

This file may be shown to any legislator: **NO** 

Drafter: mdsida

May Contact:

Addl. Drafters:

Subject:

Criminal Law - law enforcement

Criminal Law - procedure

Extra Copies:

Submit via email: YES

Requester's email:

Rep.WilliamsA@legis.state.wi.us

Carbon copy (CC:) to:

robin.ryan@legis.state.wi.us

cathlene.hanaman@legis.state.wi.us

Typed

Pre Topic:

No specific pre topic given

Topic:

Investigating deaths caused by law enforcement officers

**Instructions:** 

Same as 03-2977

**Drafting History:** 

Vers.

Drafted

Reviewed

Proofed

**Submitted** 

Jacketed

Required

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mdsida

FE Sent For:

<END>

## Dsida, Michael

From:

Dsida, Michael

Sent:

Thursday, March 03, 2005 1:09 PM

To: Subject:

Anthony, Wanda Redraft of inquest bill

In looking at the bill again, the following questions came up:

1. The bill allows a relative, through his or her attorney, to require the court to subpoena expert witnesses (with the court paying the each expert's costs), but there is no limit on that power. Is that your intent?

2. The DA currently has the authority to request a preliminary investigation by the coroner or medical examiner before proceeding with an inquest. Do you want the AG to have the same authority?

Mike Dsida Legislative Reference Bureau 608/266-9867 michael.dsida@legis.state.wi.us

# **RESEARCH APPENDIX -Draft Transfer/Copy Request Form**

- Atty's please complete this form and give to Mike Barman

(Request Made By:
Please <u>transfer</u> the drafting file for
2003 LRB $-2977$ to the drafting file
for <b>2005 LRB</b> <u>- 2 /8 (</u>
The final version of the 2003 draft and the final Request Sheet will copied on yellow paper, and returned to the original 2003 drafting file. A new cover sheet will be created/included listing the new location of the drafting file's "guts".
For research purposes, because the 2003 draft was incorporated into a 2005 draft, the complete drafting file will be transferred, as a separate appendix, to the new 2005 drafting file. This request form will be inserted into the "guts" of the 2005 draft. If introduced, the appendix will be scanned/added to the electronic drafting file folder.
OR
O Please copy the drafting file for
2005 LRB / (include the version) and place it in the

For research purposes, because the original 2005 draft was incorporated into another 2005 draft, the original drafting file will be copied on yellow paper (darkened/auto centered/reduced to 90%) and added, as a separate appendix, to the new 2005 drafting file. This request form will be inserted into the "guts" of the new 2005 draft. If introduced the appendix will be scanned/added to the electronic drafting file folder.

The original drafting file will then returned, intact, to its folder and filed. For future reference, a copy of the transfer/copy request form will also be added to the "guts" of the original draft.

SK Janet Jes CRE

てのから /2003 / 2004 LEGISLATURE LRB-29711/2 MGD:cjs:pg

2003 BILL

leg cat

AN ACT *to renumber* 979.04 (2); *to amend* 20.455 (1) (a), 758.19 (5) (a) 5., 979.025 (1), 979.04 (1), 979.05 (1), 979.05 (2), 979.05 (6), 979.06 (1), 979.06 (2), 979.07 (1) (a), 979.09 and 979.10 (2); and *to create* 978.045 (2m), 979.04 (1m), 979.04 (2) (b), 979.05 (1m) and 979.05 (1r) of the statutes; **relating to:** inquests into deaths caused by law enforcement officers and making an appropriation.

## Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill changes how inquests, particularly those involving deaths caused by law enforcement officers, are ordered and conducted.

#### Current law

Current law provides for inquests into the cause of death of a person if there is reason to believe from the circumstances surrounding the death that a homicide may have been committed or that the death may have been due to suicide or unexplained or suspicious circumstances. A district attorney may order an inquest if he or she has been given notice of the death of a person under any of these circumstances. The district attorney is not required to order an inquest, but uses his or her discretion in deciding whether to do so. In addition, a coroner or medical examiner who knows of the death of a person under any of these circumstances may request the district attorney to order an inquest. If the district attorney refuses to order the inquest, the coroner or medical examiner may petition the circuit court to order an inquest, and the court may order an inquest if it finds that the district attorney has abused his or her discretion in not ordering one.

op on the request or with the approval of

An inquest is held before a jury of six persons unless the district attorney, coroner, or medical examiner requests that the inquest be conducted before the court without a jury. The judge or circuit court commissioner conducting the inquest may order that proceedings be secret it the district attorney so requests on concurs. The district attorney appears for the state and presents all evidence which may be relevant or material to the inquiry of the inquest. However, the court may appoint a special prosecutor under certain circumstances, such as when the district attorney has a conflict of interest or when the district attorney is physically unable to attend to his or her duties and there are no other prosecutors employed by the state who can assist in handling the district attorney's duties.

At the request of the coroner or medical examiner, the court may subpoena witnesses to appear at the inquest. The court must issue subpoenas for witnesses requested by the district attorney. In addition, the court and the district attorney may subpoena expert witnesses, including physicians, surgeons, and pathologists, for the purposes of examining the body, performing scientific and medical tests connected with the examination, and testifying as to the results of the examination and tests. Any witness examined at an inquest may have an attorney present during the examination of that witness, but the attorney may not examine or cross-examine his or her client, cross-examine or call other witnesses, or argue before the court holding the inquest. If a person refuses to testify or provide evidence before an inquest on the ground that the testimony or evidence may tend to incriminate him or her, the court may, at the request of the district attorney, compel the person to testify or produce evidence. A person who testifies or produces evidence in obedience personse to the court's order is not subject to any forfeiture or penalty for or/on/account of testifying or producing evidence, except for perjury or false swearing committed when testifying.

When all of the evidence has been received, the court instructs the jury on its duties and on the law regarding the issues in the inquest, including the law regarding any criminal offense if a reasonable jury might find probable cause to believe the offense had been committed. The jury then reaches a verdict on whether the deceased died by natural causes, accident, suicide, or an act privileged by law or whether the deceased died as the result of the commission of a crime. If the jury determines that the death was the result of a crime, the verdict must also indicate the specific crimes committed and the name of the person or persons, if known, having committed the crimes. The verdict delivered by an inquest jury is advisory and does not preclude or require the issuance of any criminal charges by the district

attorney.

Changes made by this bill

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This bill changes current law governing inquests in cases in which a person has died as the result of an act of a law enforcement officer. First, the bill eliminates the district attorney's authority to call an inquest in such cases. Instead, the bill requires the attorney general to call an inquest and to appear, or to appoint a special prosecutor to appear, at an inquest in cases of that type. If the attorney general appears at an inquest or appoints a special prosecutor to appear at an inquest in such a case, the attorney general or the special prosecutor has the powers and duties that

are ordered and conducted

that a crime

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a district attorney ordinarily has at an inquest. Second, under the bill, an inquest into a death caused by a law enforcement officer may not be held before the court alone but must be held before a jury of six or 12 persons. Third, the bill prohibits an inquest into a death caused by an act of a law enforcement officer from being conducted in secret. Fourth, the bill allows certain relatives of a person whose death was caused by a law enforcement officer to be represented by an attorney at an inquest into the person's death. An attorney representing a relative may ask the court to subpoena witnesses, including expert witnesses, and upon the attorney's request the court must do so. The attorney may also examine or cross—examine any witness at the inquest and argue before the court.

Finally, the bill specifies that any inquest, including one relating to a death not caused by a law enforcement officer, may be held in any county in which criminal charges relating to the death may properly be filed.

For further information see the *state and local* fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

This bill also affects where inquests many be held. Under

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

**SECTION 1.** 20.455 (1) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

20.455 (1) (a) General program operations. The amounts in the schedule for

general program operations, including s. 165.065, and for special prosecutors

appointed under s. 978.005 (avn).

attorney general

979.06(1) and (2)

**SECTION 2.** 758.19 (5) (a) 5. of the statutes is amended to read:

758.19 **(5)** (a) 5. Fees for witnesses or expert witnesses subpoenaed by the court of the district attorney, coroner, or medical examiner or an attorney

for a relative of the decedent under s. 979.06 (1) and (2).

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SECTION 3. 978.045 (2m) of the statutes is created to read:

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978.045 (2m) The attorney general may appoint an attorney as a special

prosecutor to appear at an inquest required under si 379,04 (1m). The attorney

general shall pay the costs of the special prosecutor from the appropriation under s.

13 20.455 (1) (a).

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**S**ECTION **4.** 979.025 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

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appointed under 5. 978.045,

979.025 (1) Inmate confined to an institution in this state. If an individual dies while he or she is in the legal custody of the department and confined to a correctional facility located in this state, the coroner or medical examiner of the county where the death occurred shall perform an autopsy on the deceased individual. If the coroner or medical examiner who performs the autopsy determines that the individual's death may have been the result of any of the situations that would permit the district attorney to order under which an inquest would be permitted or required under s. 979.04 (1) or (1m), the coroner or medical examiner shall follow the procedures under s. 979.04 (2).

**Section 5.** 979.04 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

979.04 (1) If Except as provided in sub. (1m), if the district attorney has notice of the death of any person and there is reason to believe from the circumstances surrounding the death that felony murder, first-degree or 2nd-degree intentional homicide, first-degree or 2nd-degree reckless homicide, homicide by negligent handling of dangerous weapon, explosives or fire, homicide by negligent operation of vehicle, homicide resulting from negligent control of a vicious animal or homicide by intoxicated user use of a vehicle or firearm may have been committed, or that death may have been due to suicide or unexplained or suspicious circumstances, the district attorney may order that an inquest be conducted for the purpose of inquiring how the person died. The district attorney shall appear in any such inquest representing the state in presenting all evidence which may be relevant or material to the inquiry of the inquest. The inquest may be held in any county in this state in which venue would lie for the trial of any offense charged as the result of or involving the death.

1	(4) An inquest may only be ordered by the district attorney under this
2	subsection sub. (1), by the attorney general under sub. (1m), or by the circuit judge
3	under sub. (2) (a).
4	<b>Section 6.</b> 979.04 (1m) of the statutes is created to read:
5	979.04 (1m) The attorney general shall order that an inquest be conducted for
6	the purpose of inquiring how a person died if there is any evidence that the person's
7	death was caused by an act of a law enforcement officer.
8	<b>S</b> ECTION <b>7</b> . 979.04 (2) of the statutes is renumbered 979.04 (2) (a).
9	<b>SECTION 8.</b> 979.04 (2) (b) of the statutes is created to read:
10	979.04 (2) (b) If the coroner or medical examiner has knowledge of the death
11	of any person under the circumstances described under sub. (1m), he or she shall
12	immediately notify the district attorney and the attorney general. The notification
13	shall include information concerning the circumstances surrounding the death.
14	Section 9. 979.05 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:
15	979.05 (1) An inquest shall be conducted by a circuit judge or a circuit court
16	commissioner. The inquest may be held in any county in this state in which venue
17	would lie for the trial of any offense charged as the result of or involving the death.
18	<b>Section 10.</b> 979.05 (1m) of the statutes is created to read:
19)	979.05 (1m)(a) The district attorney shall appear in an inquest under s. 979.04
20	(1) and shall represent the state in presenting all evidence which may be relevant
21	or material to the inquiry of the inquest. The attorney general, or a special
22	prosecutor appointed by the attorney general under s. 978.045, shall appear in an
23	inquest required under s. 979.04 (1m) and shall represent the state in presenting all
24	evidence which may be relevant or material to the inquiry of the inquest.
25	<b>SECTION 11.</b> 979.05 (1r) of the statutes is created to read:

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979.05 (1r) (a) In this subsection, "relative" means a spouse, child, stepchild, parent, grandparent, stepparent, brother, stepbrother, sister, or stepsister.

(b) A relative of a decedent whose death is being investigated at an inquest under s. 979.04 (1m) may be represented by an attorney of his or her own choosing at the inquest proceedings. The relative's attorney may request the court to subpoena witnesses under s. 979.06 (1) and (2), examine and cross-examine any witness presenting evidence at the inquest, and argue before the judge or court commissioner holding the inquest.

**Section 12.** 979.05 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

979.05 (2) The An inquest under s. 979.04 (1) shall be conducted before a jury unless the district attorney, coroner, or medical examiner requests that the inquest be conducted before the judge or circuit court commissioner only. An inquest under s. 979.04 (1m) shall be conducted before a jury.

(2m) (a) If the inquest is to be conducted before a jury, a sufficient number of names of prospective jurors shall be selected from the prospective juror list for the county in which the inquest is to be held by the clerk of circuit court in the manner provided in s. 756.06. The judge or circuit court commissioner conducting the inquest shall summon the prospective jurors to appear before the judge or circuit court commissioner at the time fixed in the summons. The summons may be served by mail, or by personal service if the judge, circuit court commissioner, or district attorney)determines personal service to be appropriate. The summons shall be in the form used to summon petit jurors in the circuit courts of the county. Any person who fails to appear when summoned as an inquest juror is subject to a forfeiture of not more than \$40.

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(b) The inquest jury shall consist of 6 jurors except for an inquest under s. 2 979.04 (1m), in which case the inquest jury shall consist of either 6 or 12 jurors, with 3 the number specified by the attorney general when the inquest is called. If 6 the requisite number of jurors do does not remain from the number originally summoned 4 5 after establishment of qualifications, the judge or circuit court commissioner 6 conducting the inquest may require the clerk of the circuit court to select sufficient 7 additional jurors' names. Those persons shall be summoned forthwith by the sheriff 8 of the county. 9

**Section 13.** 979.05 (6) of the statutes is amended to read:

979.05 (6) The judge or circuit court commissioner conducting the an inquest under s. 979.04 (1) may order that proceedings be secret if the district attorney so requests or concurs. Proceedings of an inquest under s. 979.04 (1m) may not be conducted in secret.

**S**ECTION **14**. 979.06 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

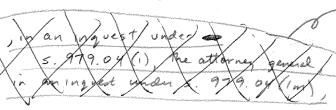
979.06 (1) The judge or circuit court commissioner may issue subpoenas for witnesses at the request of the coroner or medical examiner and shall issue subpoenas for witnesses requested by the district attorney or an attorney representing a relative of the decedent under s. 979.05 (Ir). Subpoenas are returnable at the time and place stated therein. Persons who are served with a subpoena may be compelled to attend proceedings in the manner provided in s. 885.12.

**Section 15.** 979.06 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

979.06 (2) The judge or circuit court commissioner conducting the inquest, an attorney representing a relative of the decedent under s. 979.05 (1r), and the district attorney may require by subpoena the attendance of one or more expert witnesses,

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LRB-2977/2 MGD:cjs:pg **SECTION 15** 

including physicians, surgeons, and pathologists, for the purposes of conducting an examination of the body and all relevant and material scientific and medical tests connected with the examination and testifying as to the results of the examination and tests. The expert witnesses so subpoenaed shall receive reasonable fees determined by the district attorney or attorney representing a relative, whichever is applicable, and the judge or circuit court commissioner conducting the inquest.

**SECTION 16.** 979.07 (1) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

979.07 (1) (a) If a person refuses to testify or to produce books, papers or documents when required to do so before an inquest for the reason that the testimony or evidence required of the person may tend to incriminate him or her or subject him or her to a forfeiture or penalty, the person may be compelled to testify or produce the evidence by order of the circuit court of the county in which the inquest is convened on motion of the district attorney or an attorney representing a relative of the decedent under s. 979.05 (4r). A person who testifies or produces evidence in obedience to the command of the court in that case is not subject to any forfeiture or penalty for or on account of testifying or producing evidence, except the person is subject to prosecution and punishment for perjury or false swearing committed in so testifying.

**Section 17.** 979.09 of the statutes is amended to read:

979.09 Burial of body. If any judge or circuit court commissioner conducts an inquest as to the death of a stranger or of a person whose identity is unknown or whose body is unclaimed or if the district attorney determines that no inquest into the death of such a person is necessary and the circuit judge has not ordered an inquest under s. 979.04 (2) (a), the coroner or medical examiner shall cause the body to be decently buried or cremated and shall certify to all the charges incurred in

in a case in which s. 979.04(Im) does not apply,

attempting to obtain The testimony or evidence

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taking any inquest by him or her and to the expenses of burial or cremation of the dead body. The charges and expenses shall be audited by the county board of the proper county and paid out of the county treasury.

**Section 18.** 979.10 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

979.10 (2) If a corpse is to be cremated, the coroner or medical examiner shall make a careful personal inquiry into the cause and manner of death, and conduct an autopsy or order the conducting of an autopsy, if in his or her or the district attorney's opinion it is necessary to determine the cause and manner of death. If the coroner or medical examiner determines that no further examination or judicial inquiry is necessary he or she shall certify that fact. Upon written request by the district attorney the coroner or medical examiner shall obtain the concurrence of the district attorney before issuing the certification. If the coroner or medical examiner determines that further examination or judicial inquiry is necessary, he or she shall notify the district attorney under s. 979.04 (2) (a) or the district attorney and the attorney general under s. 979.04 (2) (b), whichever is applicable.

### **SECTION 19. Initial applicability.**

(1) This act first applies to deaths occurring, and to inquests conducted with respect to deaths occurring, on the effective date of this subsection.

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(END)

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#### 2005–2006 DRAFTING INSERT FROM THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU

1	<u>analysis</u>	<b>INSERT</b> a		0
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At the request by the district attorney, the court must issue subpoenas for witnesses to appear at the inquest. The court may also subpoena witnesses at the request of the coroner or medical examiner.

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**SECTION 1.** 979.01 (1m) of the statutes is amended to read:

979.01 (1m) The coroner or medical examiner receiving notification under sub.

(1) or (1g) shall immediately notify the district attorney and, if there is any evidence that the person's death was caused by an act of a law enforcement officer, the attorney general.

History: 1973 c. 272; 1975 c. 294, 421; 1979 c. 221; 1983 a. 279 ss. 8, 22; Stats. 1983 s. 979.01; 1985 a. 315, 316; 1989 a. 121; 1993 a. 486; 1999 a. 85; 2001 a. 38.

#### INSERT 5/13

**Section 2.** 979.04 (3) of the statutes is amended to read:

the attorney general

979.04 (3) Subsequent to receipt of After receiving notice of the death, the district attorney or, in a case in which he or she believes that sub. (1m) applies, the attorney general may request the coroner or medical examiner to conduct a preliminary investigation and report back to the district attorney. The district attorney or the attorney general may determine the scope of the preliminary investigation. This subsection does not limit or prevent any other investigation into the death by any law enforcement agency with jurisdiction over the investigation.

History: 1983 a. 279; 1985 a. 135; 1987 a. 399.

#### INSERT 7/8

**SECTION 3.** 979.05 (3) of the statutes is amended to read:

979.05 (3) The judge or circuit court commissioner shall examine on oath or affirmation each person who is called as a juror to discover whether the juror is related by blood, marriage, or adoption to the decedent, any member of the decedent's family, the district attorney, any other attorney appearing in the case, or any

members of the office of the district attorney or of the office of any other attorney appearing in the case, has expressed or formed any opinion regarding the matters being inquired into in the inquest, or is aware of or has any bias or prejudice concerning the matters being inquired into in the inquest. If any prospective juror is found to be not indifferent or is found to have formed an opinion which cannot be laid aside, that juror shall be excused. The judge or circuit commissioner may select one or more alternate jurors if the inquest is likely to be protracted. This subsection does not limit the right of the district attorney representing the state at the inquest to supplement the judge's or circuit commissioner's examination of any prospective jurors as to qualifications.

History: 1983 a. 279; Sup. Ct. Order No. 96–08, 207 Wis. 2d xv (1997); 1999 a. 162; 2001 a. 61.

SECTION 4. 979.05 (5) of the statutes is amended to read:

979.05 (5) Prior to the submission of evidence to the jury, the judge or circuit court commissioner may instruct the jury on its duties and on the substantive law regarding the issues which may be inquired into before the jury. The district attorney representing the state at the inquest may, at any time during the course of the inquest, make statements to the jury relating to procedural or evidentiary matters he or she and the judge or circuit court commissioner deem appropriate. Section 972.12 applies to the conduct of the inquest jury.

History: 1983 a. 279; Sup. Ct. Order No. 96-08, 207 Wis. 2d xv (1997); 1999 a. 162; 2001 a. 61.

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**SECTION 5.** 979.08 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

979.08 (1) When the evidence is concluded and the testimony closed, the judge or circuit court commissioner shall instruct the jury on its duties and on the substantive law regarding the issues inquired into before the jury. The district attorney representing the state at the inquest shall prepare a written set of appropriate requested instructions and shall submit them to the judge or circuit court commissioner who, together with the district that attorney, shall compile the final set of instructions which shall be given. The instructions shall include those criminal offenses for which the judge or circuit court commissioner believes a

History: 1983 a. 279; 2001 a. 61.

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**SECTION 6.** 979.08 (5) of the statutes is amended to read:

979.08 (5) The verdict delivered by the inquest jury is advisory and does not preclude or require the issuance of any criminal charges by the district attorney or the attorney general.

reasonable jury might return a verdict based upon a finding of probable cause.

History: 1983 a. 279; 2001 a. 61.

**SECTION 7.** 979.08 (6) of the statutes is amended to read:

979.08 (6) Any verdict so rendered, after being validated and signed by the judge or circuit court commissioner, together with the record of the inquest, shall be delivered to the district attorney representing the state at the inquest for consideration. After considering the verdict and record, the district attorney he or she may deliver the entire inquest record or any part thereof to the coroner or medical examiner for safekeeping.

History: 1983 a. 279; 2001 a. 61.

SECTION 8. 979.08 (7) of the statutes is amended to read:

979.08 (7) The record of a secret inquest proceeding shall not be open for inspection unless so ordered by the judge or circuit court commissioner conducting the inquest upon petition by the district attorney representing the state at the inquest.

History: 1983 a. 279; 2001 a. 61.

**INSERT 9/15** 

**SECTION 9.** 979.11 of the statutes is amended to read:

strike

979.11 Compensation of officers. The sole compensation of the coroner and deputy coroners for attendance at an inquest and for any preliminary investigation under this chapter at the direction of the district attorney representing the state at the inquest shall be a reasonable sum set by the county board for each day actually and necessarily required for the purpose, and a sum set by the county board for each mile actually and necessarily traveled in performing the duty. Any coroner or deputy coroner may be paid an annual salary and allowance for traveling expenses to be established by the county board under s. 59.22 which shall be in lieu of all fees, per diem and compensation for services rendered.

History: 1975 c. 294; 1977 c. 187 s. 135; 1977 c. 449 s. 497; 1983 a. 279 s. 15; Stats. 1983 s. 979.11; 1995 a. 201.

# Emery, Lynn

From: Sent:

Dsida, Michael Thursday, April 07, 2005 3:06 PM LRB.Legal plz jacket 05-2181/1 for assembly

To:

Subject:

thanks